HOTEL INGLÉS
MADRID

1923

Good Friday.

Dear Mr. Nicolson,

(But I wish you could be induced to call me Virginia)

I got your letter as we left Richmond. I am much flattered that the P.E.N. should ask me to become a member.

I would do so with pleasure, except that I don't know what being a member means. Does it commit one to make speeches, or to come regularly, or to read papers or what? Letting so far out, dinners are apt to be difficult, & I can't speak. But we shall be back the first week in May, & if you would then enlighten me I would at once let you know. It was very good of you to propose me, & I shouldn't be cautious at all if I didn't remember some reason that made it seem, when I was asked once before, difficult to manage.

We have been tramping round Madrid after the figure of Christ in a purple dressing gown, the Last Supper, the Crucifixion & so on, & are half dazed with wine, but this is all very grating, — the country as we came through Spain yesterday incredibly beautiful. Tomorrow we are off to Granada.

Yours very sincerely
Virginia Woolf

Murcia
Spain. April 15th 1923

Dear Mr Nicolson

The secretary of the P.E.N. club has written to me to say that I have been elected a member. Very regretfully I have had to decline – since I see from the club papers that it is wholly a Dining club, & my experience is that I can't, living at Richmond, belong to Dining Clubs. I've tried two dining clubs, with complete disaster. But I'm very sorry, as I should like to know the members, & see you also.

But this last I hope can be managed in other ways.

I'm sitting in a Café with a band, ten mellow Spaniards playing dominoes, & old men trying to sell lottery tickets. So forgive this scrawl. We've had a splendid

time up in the Sierra Nevada, staying with
a mad Englishman, who does nothing
but read French & eat grapes.
There never was such a lovely
Country.

Yours very truly
Virginia Woolf.

1923

HOGARTH HOUSE
PARADISE ROAD
RICHMOND
SURREY
Telephone : Richmond 496

Dear Vita,

We had been hoping we might see you, but every week end, sane one, has been sacrificed to the Hogarth Press, which grows daily & hourly more exacting.

Next week we go down to Rodmell. If you should be anywhere near, do come & see us.

I so much enjoy your reviews.

Yours very sincerely
Virginia Woolf

1923

Hogarth House
Paradise Rd
Richmond

Wednesday

My dear Vita

I'm afraid tomorrow is impossible for me
I'm in the thick of finding a moving house.
But wouldn't you & Lord Berners dine here on
Friday, 18th, 7:30 — in the kitchen, without
dressing? That would be much nicer than tea
Would you ask him from me?

Yours ever
Virginia Woolf

Hogarth House
Richmond. Monday

My dear Vita,

How extraordinarily kind of you to offer your motor, but all is now in the hands of professionals, & we shall be lifted off bodily on Thursday.

I'm all right again, & very much want to hear your first hand account of Othello — but Heaven knows when or how. But please come & bathe & our rooms for you as soon as you can.

Yours affectionately - Devilish illiterate. V. W.